

from the latter in the narrow and very hirsute leaves, in the double pappus and dentate tipped rays.

Tanacetum capitatum Torr. & Gray.—This little plant, only known from the Rocky Mountains of North Wyoming and collected by Nuttall & Parry, was collected by Mr. Tweedy in June, 1888, in Beaver Head county, Montana. It grows on dry hills, 5,300 to 7,000 feet altitude. We are indebted to Mr. Canby for the determination of this rare species.

Penstemon Tweedyi Canby & Rose, n. sp. Three to six inches high, of a purplish hue, from a woody caudex, glabrous except the inflorescence, which is glandular puberulent: leaves mostly radical, 10 to 15 lines long, lanceolate, spatulate or narrower; stem leaves bract-like, one or two pairs below the flowers: flowers 3 to 8, mostly unilateral: calyx with somewhat unequal acute lobes: corolla bilabiate, purplish, 3 to 4 lines long: anthers dehiscent from base to apex through the junction of the two cells, glabrous; sterile filament glabrous.

Sub-alpine bogs, 9,500 feet altitude, Beaver Head county, Montana, June, 1888. Collected by Mr. Frank Tweedy (no. 35), a zealous collector in this region for the past eight years, and author of "Catalogue of the Plants of Yellowstone Park."

Our plant seems clearly to belong to Gray's sixth subsection of *Eupentstemon*. It resembles some simple entire forms of *P. humilis*, but differs in its glabrous sterile stamen, almost naked stem, etc.

Washington, D. C.

Dr. Charles C. Parry.

Our western flora can hardly be touched at any point without encountering the name of Parry, our oldest and most distinguished botanical explorer. Hundreds of new plants were brought to light by him, and although he has written very little his name must always be a prominent one in American botany.

He was born at Admington, Worcestershire, England, August 28, 1823, and died at Davenport, Iowa, February 20, 1890. In 1832 his family came to America and settled on a farm in Washington county, New York. He graduated at

Union College, Schenectady, and then studied medicine. It was the attractive flora of northeastern New York that first awoke his interest, and through his acquaintanceship with Drs. Torrey and Gray this interest became a life-long passion.

At the age of twenty-three he removed to Iowa, settling at Davenport, which always remained his home, so far as he had any abiding place.

It was in 1848 that his real work as an explorer began, in connection with David Dale Owen's geological survey of the Northwest, his collections being made along the St. Peter River and up the St. Croix as far as Lake Superior. In 1849 he was appointed botanist to the Mexican Boundary Survey, going by way of the Isthmus of Panama to San Diego. In 1850 the trip was repeated, owing to the loss of the collection in a storm. In 1851 he was ordered to El Paso, on the Rio Grande, exploring regions never before and but seldom since visited by botanists. The rich collections of these two years are found described in the well-known report of the Mexican Boundary Survey.

In 1861 he began his series of explorations in the Colorado Rocky Mountains, the work being undertaken at his own expense. One who has seen the charming flora of the Colorado peaks can well understand the enthusiasm of Parry as he fairly reveled in this untrodden ground and brought to light its beautiful alpine plants. It was an experience which has fallen to the lot of very few botanists, and it is little wonder that exploration became his passion. But in all his subsequent varied experiences as a collector, it is said that he always remembered his alpine plants of the Colorado mountains with the warmest affection.

In 1867 he became botanist of the Pacific railroad survey that crossed the continent on the parallel of 35°.

In 1869 Dr. Parry was appointed botanist of the Department of Agriculture, a position which he held for nearly three years.

The remaining twenty years of his life were entirely devoted to exploration, much material being collected by him in Utah, Nevada, California and Mexico. His last years were devoted more to the study of certain groups than in making general collections, and his work on *Ceanothus* and *Chorizanthe* is unusually well fortified by a wealth of acute field observations. His last new species of *Chorizanthe* is published in this number of the *BOTANICAL GAZETTE*.

His herbarium must be remarkably rich in western plants, and is deposited, as we understand, among the collections of the Davenport Academy of Sciences.

In Dr. Parry's death we lose another of our veteran botanists, and the day seems not far distant when an entirely new generation will stand for American botany.

BRIEFER ARTICLES.

The system of arrangement of genera in the National Herbarium.—In order to facilitate the work of reference to the specimens in the National Herbarium, the following system of arranging and labeling the orders and genera has been adopted by Dr. Vasey:

Durand's Index¹ has been taken as the basis for nomenclature and arrangement. This book forms a compact index of the genera and orders of Phanerogams, based upon the *Genera Plantarum* of Bentham and Hooker, and published with Hooker's approval. The *Genera Plantarum* was published in parts, covering a period of twenty-one years, ending in 1883. The changes in nomenclature during this period, notably those brought out in DeCandolle's *Monographs*, have been incorporated in the work. It will be, for many years to come, the standard index to the genera of Phanerogams, and the general use of its numbers by botanists will greatly aid reference to and between large herbaria. Our standard check-lists, too, should use the same numbers for orders and genera.

The general plan and arrangement of the genera and orders in the work is that of the *Genera Plantarum*, the Gymnosperms, however, being placed last. The orders are consecutively numbered, and the genera arranged in each systematically and numbered, beginning in each order with 1. In addition, the genera are provided with another set of numbers, beginning with the first in *Ranunculaceæ* and running on consecutively to the last in *Cycadaceæ*. This gives to each genus a ready reference number, and is one of the important features of the work.

Before describing the labels to be used in the National Herbarium it is necessary to state that hanging over the front of each shelf is a stiff flap (12 by 5 inches) of cloth-covered binders-board on which are marked the name of the order and the genus or genera to which the plants on that shelf belong.

¹ *Index Generum Phanerogamarum*, Conscriptis Th. Durand. Bruxelles, sumptibus auctoris. 1888. (8°, pp. XXI, 722. £1.)